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000 were lodged. Two days of easy marching down the valley of the Pei-ch'iao Ho brought us to Yün Chou. Though this town is 1,600 feet below Shun-ning, the descent is so gradual as to be hardly noticed. At the end of the second march the road passes through a gap in a spur and comes suddenly on the town, within 100 yards.

361 438 It is built at the junction of the Pei-ch'iao Ho with the Nan-ch'iao Ho, a somewhat larger stream which runs up from the south and eventually flows into the Mekong. The town is surrounded by a soft brick wall, 12 feet high, not kept in very good repair. It contains about 800 houses, and is a larger and more prosperous place than Shun-ning. The population includes a good many Panthays and they form the principal commercial element. The trade is not very large and is almost entirely confined to dealings with the Shan States of Mêng-sa, Kêng-ma, and Mêng-ting, and with the Panthay settlement at Pang-long in the Northern Shan States.

294 438 One of the principal articles of local produce is a curious kind of waterproof coat called *tso-yi*, much used by the poorer classes in Yün-nan. It is made out of the outer fibrous bark of a sort of palm tree, called *tsung-pao* by the Chinese. At the first glance it might easily be taken for the skin of some long-haired animal.

635 Yün Chou, like Shun-ning, was formerly a Shan state. Its Shan name is Möng Yü, and there are still a few families of that race living in the plain. The Yün Chou 241 plain is much cut up by uncultivated spurs which run out into it, but good crops of beans and sugar-cane are grown. The latter is a specially valuable product in Yün-nan, as it will not grow in the higher and colder plains.

231 On the march from Shun-ning, at the village of Jê-shui-t'ang, I saw a most curious freak of nature, a buffalo with five horns. Two of them were of the ordinary pattern, the other three grew out of the centre of his forehead, two going straight up in the air close together, and the third sticking straight out to the front. The three superfluous horns had been sawn off rather short, but there was no doubt about the fact that they were there.

000 We left Yün Chou again on the 18th February and ascended gradually, reaching the Mekong-Salween water-